

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Pamela Wingood on 3/3/09.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 53. (currently amended) A method for administering a controlled flow of air to a person suffering from sleep apnea, in accordance with the real-time needs of said person, the method comprising: connecting a portable source of high pressure air by means of a thin tubing to an air delivery nasal interface wherein the air delivery nasal interface comprises two air delivery units configured for delivering a flow of air each to a respective nostril of said person, the two air delivery units being pivotally mounted on opposite ends of a flat elongated flexible member configured to be placed above the upper lip of said person, wherein each of said two air delivery units comprises a Venturi device, both ~~an two Venturi devices, each of said Venturi devices comprises~~ comprising a hollow member defining a central space, an inlet that opens into said central space, each hollow member having a first open end that opens into surrounding ambient air and a second ~~opened~~ open end provided with a nasal adaptor attachable to a person's nostril, each of said Venturi devices being configured to receive a flow of high pressure air through said inlet and to direct said flow of high pressure air toward

said second end, thereby drawing ambient air from said first open end toward said second open end and reducing said high pressure to a pressure of lower value; monitoring the breathing of said person by means of a sensor; and delivering a flow of high pressure air from said source of high pressure air via said thin tubing to said air delivery nasal interface via the inlets of said ~~two~~ Venturi devices; and automatically regulating said flow of high pressure air in accordance with the monitored breathing so as to administer a flow of a desired pressure to said person when an apneic breathing pattern is detected and turning off the flow of high pressure air upon detection of a regular non-obstructed breathing.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CLINTON OSTRUP whose telephone number is (571)272-5559. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Clinton Ostrup/
Examiner, Art Unit 3771

/Justine R Yu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3771